

# August 2014 Immigration Fraud Reading List

*Prepared by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)  
Fraud and Abuse Prevention Program*

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## **Fraud Against Immigrants, Including the Unauthorized Practice of Law (UPL):**

- **August 9, 2014** – State Bar of Texas warns against unauthorized practice of law in unaccompanied minor cases (Austin, TX)

[http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/fort\\_bend/news/state-bar-of-texas-warns-against-unauthorized-practice-of-law/article\\_55891452-8cfb-5dcd-bc2d-085282b6b3a8.html](http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/fort_bend/news/state-bar-of-texas-warns-against-unauthorized-practice-of-law/article_55891452-8cfb-5dcd-bc2d-085282b6b3a8.html)

- **July 29, 2014** - Settlement Reached with Company Alleged to Have Practiced Law Without a License (Boise, ID)

[http://www.ag.idaho.gov/media/newsReleases/2014/nr\\_07292014.html](http://www.ag.idaho.gov/media/newsReleases/2014/nr_07292014.html)

- **July 24, 2014** – DA VANCE: ATTORNEY INDICTED FOR DEFRAUDING IMMIGRANTS FROM CARIBBEAN, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICA (New York, NY)

<http://manhattanda.org/press-release/da-vance-attorney-indicted-defrauding-immigrants-caribbean-central-and-south-america-a>

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20140811/int/int7.html>

- **July 23, 2014** - FEDERAL AUTHORITIES ARREST COURT INTERPRETER, TRINA MARIE BOURG, FOR WIRE FRAUD (New Orleans, LA)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/lae/news/2014/2014\\_07\\_23\\_Trina\\_Marie\\_Bourg\\_arrest.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/lae/news/2014/2014_07_23_Trina_Marie_Bourg_arrest.html)

- **July 21, 2014** – A.G. Schneiderman Announces \$2.2 Million Restitution Fund For Victims Of Immigration Scam (New York, NY)

<http://www.ag.ny.gov/press-release/ag-schneiderman-announces-22-million-restitution-fund-victims-immigration-scam>

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/politics/2014/07/22/popular-tv-host-scammed-undocumented-immigrants-to-live-opulent-life-police/>

- **July 19, 2014** – New Fraud Schemes Targeting Families of Unaccompanied Children (San Antonio, TX)
- <http://www.fbi.gov/sanantonio/press-releases/2014/new-fraud-schemes-targeting-families-of-unaccompanied-children>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/24/world/americas/swindles-target-kin-of-migrants.html?ref=us&r=0>

<http://news.yahoo.com/fbi-no-arrests-yet-scam-targeting-migrant-kids-183005832.html>

▪ **July 18, 2014** – South Philadelphia: Community Groups Work Together To Stop Notario Fraud  
<http://philadelphianeighborhoods.com/2014/07/18/south-philadelphia-community-groups-work-together-to-stop-notario-fraud/>

▪ **June 27, 2014** – Notarios: Immigration Help That Hurts  
<http://latinousa.org/2014/06/27/notarios/>

#### **Facilitators of Immigration Fraud:**

▪ **August 11, 2014** – Lawyer And Three Others Charged In Manhattan Federal Court With Scheme To Obtain Immigration Visas Based On Fraudulent Advanced Degree Diplomas (New York, NY)  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/nys/pressreleases/August14/RichardKasselIndictment.php>

▪ **August 6, 2014** – Illegal Alien Sentenced for Conspiring to Produce False ID (Boston, MA)  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/ma/news/2014/August/EspinalBurgosLeonardosentencingPR2.html>

▪ **August 6, 2014** – Immigration official charged with illegally bringing person into U.S. from Ghana (Newark, NJ)  
[http://www.nj.com/essex/index.ssf/2014/08/immigration\\_official\\_charged\\_with\\_illegally\\_bringing\\_person\\_into\\_us\\_from\\_ghana.html](http://www.nj.com/essex/index.ssf/2014/08/immigration_official_charged_with_illegally_bringing_person_into_us_from_ghana.html)

▪ **August 5, 2014** – Two Men Sentenced To Prison For Producing And Selling False Identification Documents (Statesville, NC)  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/ncw/pressreleases/2014/Charlotte-2014-08-05-cruz.html>

▪ **August 4, 2014** – Six Arrested During Identity Theft Investigation (Greeneville, TN)  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/tne/news/2014/August/080414B%20Six%20Arrests%20Identity%20Theft.html>

▪ **August 1, 2014** - Former Immigration Officer Convicted At Trial For Taking Bribes And Witness Tampering (Santa Ana, CA)  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/cac/Pressroom/2014/100.html>

▪ **August 1, 2014** - Federal Officer Charged With Witness Tampering for Allegedly Hindering Investigation of Sham Marriage (Chicago, IL)  
[http://www.justice.gov/usao/iln/pr/chicago/2014/pr0801\\_01.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/iln/pr/chicago/2014/pr0801_01.html)

▪ **July 30, 2014** – Immigration Attorney Sentenced For Bribing An Immigration Official (Baltimore, MD)  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/md/news/2014/ImmigrationAttorneySentencedForBribingAnImmigrationOfficial.html>

▪ **July 25, 2014** – Jamaican man sentenced for identity fraud conspiracy (Orlando, FL)  
<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1407/140725orlando.htm>

▪ **July 25, 2014** – Tampa woman sentenced to prison for leading marriage fraud ring (Tampa, FL)  
<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1407/140725tampa.htm>

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/flm/press/2014/Jul/20140725\\_Hamilton.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/flm/press/2014/Jul/20140725_Hamilton.html)

<http://www.uscis.gov/news/news-releases/uscis-efforts-tampa-lead-successful-cases-against-marriage-fraud>

▪ **July 24, 2014** – Two Dodge City Residents Indicted In Alleged Document Fraud Ring (Wichita, KS)

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/ks/PressReleases/2014/July%202014/July24a.html>

▪ **July 16, 2014** – Indictment Unsealed in Unauthorized Aliens Employment Conspiracy (Houston, TX)

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/txs/1News/Releases/2014%20July/140716%20-%20Flores%20et%20al.html>

<http://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1407/140716houston.htm>

#### **Fraud by Individuals (or Businesses) for Their Own Benefit:**

▪ **August 11, 2014** – Lebanese national admits fraud in procuring US immigration benefits (Detroit, MI)

<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1408/140811detroit.htm>

▪ **August 7, 2014** – Criminal Immigration Charges Brought Against Nine Illegal Aliens (Harrisburg, PA)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/pam/news/2014/Combined\\_illegal\\_presence\\_08\\_07\\_14.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/pam/news/2014/Combined_illegal_presence_08_07_14.html)

▪ **August 6, 2014** - MEXICAN NATIONAL PLEADS GUILTY TO FALSELY CLAIMING AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP (Lafayette, LA)

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/law/news/wdla20140806a.html>

<http://www.kalb.com/story/26216704/man-pleads-guilty-for-falsely-claiming-to-be-american-citizen>

▪ **August 6, 2014** – Philadelphia Resident Charged With Immigration Fraud (Philadelphia, PA)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/pae/News/2014/August/dawari\\_release.htm](http://www.justice.gov/usao/pae/News/2014/August/dawari_release.htm)

<http://www.fbi.gov/philadelphia/press-releases/2014/philadelphia-resident-charged-with-immigration-fraud>

<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1408/140806philadelphia.htm>

[http://www.philly.com/philly/news/Feds\\_Applicant\\_for\\_US\\_citizenship\\_failed\\_to\\_disclose\\_ties\\_to\\_terrorist\\_group.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/news/Feds_Applicant_for_US_citizenship_failed_to_disclose_ties_to_terrorist_group.html)

<http://6abc.com/news/ne-philly-man-accused-of-having-ties-to-al-qaida/245443/>

▪ **July 31, 2014** – Feds: Owners of dogs in fatal attack in U.S. illegally (Detroit, MI)

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/07/31/owners-of-dogs-involved-in-fatal-attack-in-us-illegally-feds-say/13395563/>

<http://www.myfoxdetroit.com/story/26173940/couple-whose-dogs-fatally-mauled-jogger-appear-in-court>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2014/08/01/owners-of-dogs-that-were-looking-to-kill-charged-in-fatal-mauling-of-jogger/>

▪ **July 30, 2014** – Man From Dominican Republic Sentenced In White Plains Federal Court For Identity Theft And Failure To Register As A Sex Offender (White Plains, NY)

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/nys/pressreleases/July14/CepedaSentenced.php>

▪ **July 29, 2014** - Jamaican Native Sentenced For Passport Fraud (Buffalo, NY)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/nyw/press/press\\_releases/2014/jul/Chris\\_Brown.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/nyw/press/press_releases/2014/jul/Chris_Brown.html)

▪ **July 25, 2014** - Jamaican Man Sentenced For Identity Fraud Conspiracy (Orlando, FL)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/flm/press/2014/Jul/20140725\\_Davis.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/flm/press/2014/Jul/20140725_Davis.html)

▪ **July 24, 2014** – CITIZEN OF MOROCCO ADMITS FABRICATING REFUGEE APPLICATION TO REMAIN IN U.S. (Hartford, CT)

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/ct/Press2014/20140724.html>

▪ **July 24, 2014** – US Embassy exposes 9 Nigerians in Visa fraud (Lagos, NG)

<http://www.cityvoiceng.com/us-embassy-exposes-9-nigerians-in-visa-fraud/>

▪ **July 23, 2014** -Jamaican National Convicted of Marriage Fraud (Tampa, FL)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/flm/press/2014/Jul/20140723\\_Harrison.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/flm/press/2014/Jul/20140723_Harrison.html)

<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1407/140724tampa.htm>

▪ **July 22, 2014** - Rochester Man Arrested; Charged with Falsely Claiming United States Citizenship (Rochester, NY)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/nyw/press/press\\_releases/2014/jul/Eugene\\_Thompson.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/nyw/press/press_releases/2014/jul/Eugene_Thompson.html)

▪ **July 21, 2014** – State’s Financial Services Department Raids Fruit Dynamics Packing Plant (Naples, FL)

<http://www.latinpost.com/articles/17644/20140721/immigration-raid.htm>

▪ **July 21, 2014** – Suspect in Irish soldiers’ deaths arrested in US (Dearborn, MI)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/21/suspect-in-irish-soldiers-deaths-arrested-in-us/>

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140721/NEWS06/307210165/ice-cream-bazzi-irish>

▪ **July 21, 2014** – Durham immigrants charged with arranging fraudulent marriages (Durham, NC)

(<http://www.indyweek.com/triangulator/archives/2014/07/21/durham-immigrants-charged-with-entering-fraudulent-marriages>)

▪ **July 16, 2014** - Hampton Man Charged With Passport Fraud And False Statements (Cedar Rapids, IA)

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/ian/news/2014/jul\\_14/7\\_16\\_14\\_Hernandez-Labra.html](http://www.justice.gov/usao/ian/news/2014/jul_14/7_16_14_Hernandez-Labra.html)

▪ **July 15, 2014** – Fake immigrant families pose new Border Patrol challenge (Brownsville, TX)

<http://kxan.com/2014/07/15/fake-immigrant-families-pose-new-border-patrol-challenge/>

**Other Matters:**

- **July 28, 2014** – H.R. 5228: Notario Victim Relief Act (proposed)

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/hr5228>

- **July 23, 2014** – HSI, Migracion Colombia sign agreement to strengthen immigration cooperation (Bogota, CO)

<https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1407/140723bogota.htm>

- **July 11, 2014** – Contractor settles U.S. probe (Albany, NY)

<http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Firm-that-worked-on-Beech-Nut-plant-settles-with-5616028.php>

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/nyn/news/2016-3975-441115008.pdf>